

Course Name: Latin American Literature

- ✓ **Hours of Instruction per Week: 4**
- ✓ **Total weeks: 15**
- ✓ **Total Hours of Instruction: 60**
- ✓ **Courses transferable to ECTS**
- ✓ **Courses transferable to U.S. System**
- ✓ **Recommendation: Advanced written and spoken English**

Course Description:

This course explores Latin American literature from pre-Columbian times to the present. The prescribed texts include letters, poems, short stories, critical articles and novels by acclaimed authors such as Octavio Paz, Juan Rulfo, García Márquez, José María Arguedas and Borges. Many of them belonged to the Latin American Boom of the 1960s and 1970s, when the Latin American novel became known throughout the world. The course examines literary responses to complex cultural, social and historical problems: conquest, nation building and national identity formation; acculturation, avant-gardism, nationalism and cosmopolitanism; or populism and authoritarianism.

Attendance policy:

In accordance with University policies, students are required to have 75% percent attendance in order to take the final exam and have an opportunity to pass the class. Any absences incurred during trips or excursions not organized by the University fall within the 25% limit of absences. An electronic system keeps track of attendance. Students have to slide an electric card every class to comply with attendance policy.

Evaluation Methods:

- In-Class Participation: 10%
- Oral Presentation: 20%
- Short Papers (2): 30%
- Midterm Exam: 20%
- Final Exam: 20%

For a better understanding of the comparable table for grading: check the conversion table for the numerical scale (in orientation kit packet).

Academic Calendar

Week 1

1.1.

Introduction. The chronicles of the conquest. Literature and history. Cultural contact between America and Europe.

Origin of the Aztecs by Anonymous.

Omens Foretelling the Conquest, by Anonymous

1.2.

“Marvelous Possessions” (52-85) by Stephen Greenblatt.

Week 2

2.1.

“The Spaniards entry into Tenochtitlan,” by Bernal Diaz del Castillo.

“Battles of Tenochtitlan and Tlatelolco,” by Anonymous.

2.2.

“The origin of the Incas,” by Garcilaso de la Vega

“Atahualpa and Pizarro,” by John Hemming

Week 3

3.1.

“The defense of the Indians,” by Fray Bartolomé de las Casas.

“On Men’s Hypocrisy,” by Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz

“Cabinets of Transgression,” Anthony Alan Shelton (177-203)

“The Uncertain Impact,” J.H. Elliott (1-27)

3.2.

Aguirre The Wrath of God, film by Werner Herzog

“Kidnapping Language” (86-118) by Stephen Greenblatt.

Short paper 1 assigned

Week 4

4.1.

XIX Century: Romanticism and Nation Building

Facundo, by Domingo Faustino Sarmiento: chapters 1, 5 & 14

Week 5

5.1.

The Slaughteryard by Esteban Echeverría

5.2.

Far away & long ago, (Chapter 7) W.H. Hudson and *The Voyage of the Beagle*, Charles Darwin (Chapter 6) OP on English Travelers

Turn in short paper 1

Week 6

6.1.

from *Rough notes taken during some rapid journeys across the Pampas*, "The Pampas Indians" & "The Town of Buenos Aires" by Francis Bond Head. OP on English Travelers

6.2.

"Women of Lima," by Flora Tristán. "Friar Martin's Mice," by Ricardo Palma

Week 7

7.1.

Camila, film by María Luisa Bemberg

7.2.

The kingdom of this world by Alejo Carpentier

Week 8

8.1.

Chronicle of a Death Foretold, by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

"García Márquez's *Crónica de una muerte anunciada* as metafiction," by Jorge Olivares

Week 9

9.1.

Mid-term Exam

9.2.

Featherless Vultures, by Julio Ramón Ribeyro.

OP The 1960s Literary Boom. Emir Rodríguez Monegal interview

Short paper 2 assigned

Week 10

10.1.

Los olvidados film by Luis Buñuel

10.2.

"The Murderers of Mexico" by Alma Guillermoprieto

"Identity Hour," by Carlos Monsivais and "The sons of the Malinche," from *The Labyrinth of Solitude* by Octavio Paz

Week 11

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11.1.

“Modesta Gómez” by Rosario Castellanos & “When Women Love Men” by Rosario Ferré.

11.2.

“The Masacre of Chan Chan,” by Carleton Beals

“The Pongo’s Dream” by José María Arguedas

Turn in short paper 2

Week 12

12.1.

“Tell Them Not to Kill me”, “No Dogs Bark” & “Anacleto Morones”, by Juan Rulfo.

“The Turbulent Flow: Stream of Consciousness Techniques in the Short Stories by Juan Rulfo” by Paul Borgeson jr

12.2.

También la lluvia (Film 2010) by Iciar Bolaín.

Week 13

13.1.

“The South,” by Jorge Luis Borges

13.2.

“Emma Zunz”, by Jorge Luis Borges. “The Labyrinth of Time and Place in Two Stories by Borges” by H. E. Lewald

Week 14

14.1.

Regarding Roderer, Guillermo Martínez

14.2.

Domesticity & The End of Household Objects, Alejandro Manara

Week 15

15.1.

Final exam

15.2.

Final Grade Sheet and signature of Hoja de situación (**attendance is mandatory**).

N.B.: *Timelines and content are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*

Bibliography

Bemberg, María Luisa. *Camila* (film)

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- Carpentier, Alejo. *The kingdom of this world*. Trans. Harriet de Onís. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006.
- Echeverría, Esteban "The Slaughteryard," Trans. Norman Thomas di Giovanni, London: Friday Books, 2010.
- Elliott J.H. "The Uncertain Impact" *The Old World and the New: 1492- 1650*. Cambridge UP, 1970. 1-27
- Foster, David William & Daniel Altamirana. *Spanish American Literature: A Collection of Essays*. New York / London: Garland, 1997.
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- Gregory Rabassa. New York: Vintage International, 1982.
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- Olivares, Jorge. "García Márquez's *Crónica de una muerte anunciada* as metafiction," JSTOR.
- Resnais, Alain. *Last Year in Marienbad* (film).
- Sarmiento, Domingo F. *Facundo*. Trans.
- Shelton, Anthony Alan. "Cabinets of Transgression." *The Cultures of Collecting*. Ed. John Elsner and Roger Cardinal. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1994. 177-